This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A catalyst containing at least one group VIII element and at least molybdenum and/or tungsten, said elements being present at least in part in the catalyst in the dry state in the form of at least one heteropolyanion having a structural formula $M_xAB_6O_{24}H_6C_{(3-2x)} \cdot tH_2O$ (I); $M_xAB_6O_{24}H_6C_{(4-2x)} \cdot tH_2O$ (I'); $M_xA_2B_{10}O_{38}H_4C_{(6-2x)} \cdot tH_2O$; $M_xA_2B_{10}O_{38}H_4C_{(8-2x)} \cdot tH_2O$ (I''') ; or $M_xA_2B_{10}O_{38}H_4C_{(7-2x)} \cdot tH_2O$ (I''''); wherein M is cobalt, nickel, iron, copper, zinc, or mixtures thereof, A is an element ~~from~~ of group VIII of the periodic table for formulae I and I' or one or elements ~~from~~ of group VIII of the periodic table for formulae I'', I''' and I'''', B is molybdenum and/or tungsten and C is an H^+ ion and/or a $(NR_1R_2R_3R_4)^+$ type ammonium ion, ~~in which~~ wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4, ~~which~~ may be identical or different, and correspond either to a hydrogen atom or to an alkyl group, cesium, potassium, sodium or mixtures thereof, t is a number ~~between~~ from 0 ~~and~~ to 15 and x is 0 to 3/2 in (I), 0 to 2 in (I'), 0 to 3 in (I''), 0 to 4 in (I''') and 0 to 7/2 in (I'''') and wherein the number of bonds connecting the group VIII element or elements with the molybdenum and/or tungsten having a length of 3.6 angstroms or less is greater than 2.

2. **(Previously Presented)** A catalyst according to claim 1, wherein more than 2 bonds connecting the group VIII element or elements with the molybdenum and/or tungsten have a length of 3.5 angstroms or less in the catalyst in the dry state.

3. **(Previously Presented)** A catalyst according to claim 1, wherein element A is selected from the group consisting of nickel, cobalt and iron.

4. **(Previously Presented)** A catalyst according to claim 1 comprising, in the dry state, 0.01% to 100% by weight with respect to the total catalyst weight of at least one heteropolyanion with a structural formula selected from the group consisting of formulae I, I', I", I"' and I"".

5. **(Previously Presented)** A catalyst according to claim 1, comprising at least one porous mineral matrix.

6. **(Previously Presented)** A catalyst according to claim 5, further comprising a zeolitic molecular sieve.

7. **(Previously Presented)** A catalyst according to claim 5 comprising, in the dry state, as a % by weight with respect to the total catalyst weight, 1% to 99.9% of at least one porous mineral matrix, 0.1% to 99% by weight of at least one heteropolyanion having a structural formula selected from the group consisting of formulae I, I', I", I"' and I"" and 0 to 80% by weight of at least one zeolitic molecular sieve.

8. **(Previously Presented)** A catalyst according to claim 1, wherein the heteropolyanion has a structural formula selected from the group consisting of $Co_3Co_2Mo_{10}O_{38}H_4$, $Ni_{3/2}CoMo_6O_{24}H_6$, $Co_2CoMo_6O_{24}H_6$, $Ni_3Co_2Mo_{10}O_{38}H_4$, $Co_4Ni_2Mo_{10}O_{38}H_4$, $Co_2NiMo_6O_{24}H_6$, $Ni_2CoMo_6O_{24}H_6$, $Co_{3/2}$ $CoMo_6O_{24}H_6$, and $Ni_2NiMo_6O_{24}H_6$.

9. **(Previously Presented)** A catalyst according to claim 1, which has undergone a sulphurization treatment.

10. **(Previously Presented)** In a catalytic process comprising hydrorefining and/or hydroconverting a hydrocarbon feed, said process comprising subjecting said feed to hydrorefining and/or hydroconverting conditions in the presence of a catalyst, the improvement wherein the catalyst is one according to claim 1.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A catalytic process according to claim 10 comprising conducting hydrogenation, hydrodenitrogenation, hydrodeoxygenation, hydrodearomatization, hydrodesulphurization, hydrodemetallization, hydroisomerization, hydrodealkylation or dehydrogenation reactions.

12. **(Previously Presented)** In a catalytic process comprising conducting hydrocracking of a hydrocarbon feed, said process comprising subjecting said feed to hydrorefining and/or hydroconverting conditions in the presence of a catalyst, the improvement wherein the catalyst is according to claim 1.

13. **(Currently Amended)** A catalytic process according to claim 10, ~~in which~~ wherein said hydrocarbon feed contains at least one heteroatom.

14. **(Previously Presented)** A catalyst according to claim 8, wherein the heteropolyanion is $Co_2Mo_{10}O_{38}H_4Co_3$, $CoMo_6O_{24}H_6Ni_{3/2}$, or $NiMo_6O_{24}H_6Ni_2$.